United Nations S/2015/644

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 August 2015

Original: English

Letter dated 18 August 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the visit of the highest political leadership of the Russian Federation to the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yuriy **Sergeyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

15-14000 (E) 210815

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 18 August 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the visit of the high political leadership of the Russian Federation to the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol

17 August 2015

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its resolute protest over the visit of the high leadership of the Russian Federation on 17 August 2015 to the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which had not been agreed with the Ukrainian side. A respective note of protest has been sent also to the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Therein, the Ukrainian side demanded an explanation of the manifest disregard of Ukrainian legislation and norms of international law by Russian President Vladimir Putin, the head of the Russian Government, Dmitry Medvedev, and other high-level officials of the Russian Federation and to stop the practice of holding such visits.

Apart from the outrage that such conscious and deliberate neglect of key principles of international law and Ukrainian legislation by Russian leaders causes, we once again draw the attention of the Russian side to the necessity to abide by the procedure for entry to the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and exit from it adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers in its resolution 367 of 4 June 2015. We recall that the violation of this procedure envisages responsibility according to current Ukrainian legislation.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine emphasizes that the Kremlin's attempts to interpret these unapproved visits to Ukraine as "domestic" travel are null and void. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol are and will remain an integral part of Ukraine for the entire civilized world, which had already given due assessment of the Russian actions by imposing appropriate restrictive measures.